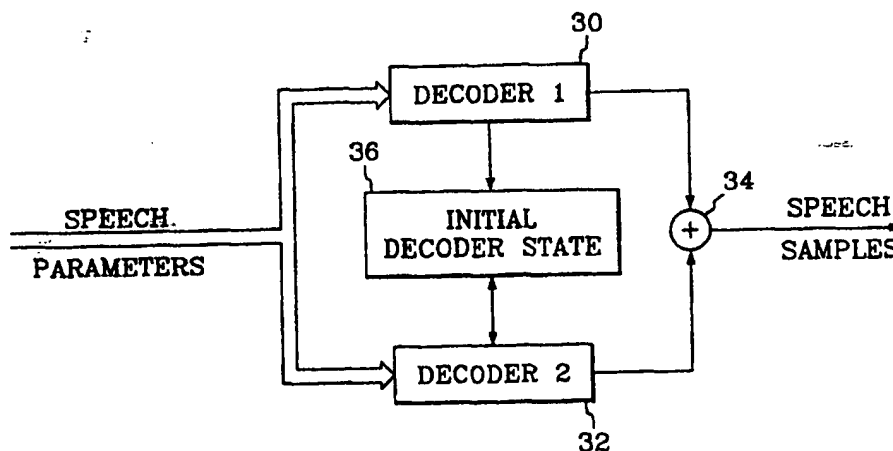




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : H04L	A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/59282 (43) International Publication Date: 18 November 1999 (18.11.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE99/00689 (22) International Filing Date: 28 April 1999 (28.04.99) (30) Priority Data: 9801725-4 14 May 1998 (14.05.98) SE (71) Applicant: TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON [SE/SE]; S-126 25 Stockholm (SE). (72) Inventors: EKUDDEN, Erik; Fjärilsvägen 23, S-184 38 Åkersberga (SE). SVENSSON, Tomas; S:t Eriksgatan 52, S-112 34 Stockholm (SE). SUNDQVIST, Jim; P.O. Box 920, S-971 28 Luleå (SE). (74) Agents: MRAZEK, Werner et al.; Aros Patent AB, P.O. Box 1544, S-751 45 Uppsala (SE).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.

(54) Title: DELAYED PACKET CONCEALMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS



(57) Abstract

A decoder improves delayed packet concealment in a packet network by using two decoder sections. A first decoder section (30) bases its decoding during the concealment phase on erroneous filter states and a set of speech parameters, whereas a second decoder section bases its decoding on saved (36) and updated filter states and the same speech parameters. The outputs of the two decoder sections are thereafter combined (34) to form the final speech signal. This decoding strategy produces a speech signal with smooth transitions from delayed to non-delayed packets and uses information from the most recent packets for speech generation.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece			TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NZ	New Zealand		
CM	Cameroon			PL	Poland		
CN	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

DELAYED PACKET CONCEALMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS

TECHNICAL FIELD

5 The present invention relates to a delayed packet concealment method and apparatus in a packet network that uses delayed parameters to improve concealment of delayed packets.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10

Digitally compressed speech signals are often transmitted in packets containing speech parameters for reconstructing speech frames in a decoder at the receiving end. Typical examples of such packet networks are IP and ATM networks. When packets are delayed or lost, some sort of concealment method is used to cover for the delayed or lost speech parameters (see [1]). Typically these concealment methods comprise predicting the speech parameters for a delayed or lost packet from previously received parameters, and applying the predicted parameters to the decoding process instead of the delayed or lost parameters. The parameters of the first delayed or lost packet are usually simply copied from the previous packet. If further packets are delayed or lost, the same parameters are still used, but now the output signal is gradually muted. A characteristic feature of these methods is that the same strategy is used both for delayed and lost packets. A drawback of these methods is that the information in delayed packets is simply discarded, although it is more up to date than the information that is used for parameter prediction.

25

A method that distinguishes between delayed and lost packets is described in [2]. In the method described in this reference, speech parameters in delayed packets replace predicted parameters as soon as the delayed packet arrives. However, a characteristic feature of this method is that it does not consider the fact that the decoder is based on digital filtering. Digital filters in the decoder reach final filter states after decoding of a frame. These final filter states are used as initial filter

30

states for the decoding of the next frame (with the new speech parameters). If the decoded output signal is to be the same signal as the optimal signal that was produced in the analysis-by-synthesis process in the encoder at the transmitting end, both speech parameters and initial filter states have to be the same. In the method described in [2], only the correct speech parameters will be used when a delayed packet eventually arrives. However, in the meantime the filter states have drifted away from the final state of the previous frame during the prediction phase, which leads to annoying abrupt output signal changes when the delayed speech parameters are suddenly applied.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a delayed packet concealment method and apparatus that uses information in delayed packets, but in which such annoying abrupt output signal changes are minimized or even eliminated.

This object is achieved in accordance with the appended patent claims.

Briefly, the present invention involves using the information received in delayed packets to update not only the speech parameters, but also the initial decoder state. During delayed packet concealment two decoded output signals are then generated with the same speech parameters, one based on drifted decoder states and one based on updated decoder states. Thereafter these two output signals are weighted together into a final output signal. This procedure makes the transition from predicted to updated speech parameters smoother.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by making reference to the following description taken together with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a typical speech decoder;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a FIR filter;

FIG. 3 is a block diagram of another typical speech decoder;

FIG. 4 is a timing diagram illustrating a prior art delayed packet concealment method;

5 FIG. 5 is a timing diagram illustrating another prior art delayed packet concealment method;

FIG. 6 is a timing diagram illustrating the delayed packet concealment method in accordance with the present invention;

10 FIG. 7 is another timing diagram illustrating the delayed packet concealment method in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 8 is a block diagram of a delayed packet concealment apparatus in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 9 is a preferred embodiment of a decoder suitable for implementing the delayed packet concealment apparatus of fig. 8; and

15 FIG. 10 is a flow chart illustrating the delayed packet concealment method of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

20 Fig. 1 is a block diagram of a typical speech decoder 10. A fixed codebook 12 contain excitation vectors that are used to reconstruct a speech signal. The excitation vector selected from the fixed codebook 12 is weighted by a gain factor G. This final excitation vector is forwarded to a long-term predictor (digital filter) 16. The output signal from long-term predictor 16 is forwarded to a short-term predictor (another digital filter) 18, which outputs the decoded speech samples. The described decoder is
25 controlled by received speech parameters. These parameters may be divided into two groups, namely excitation parameters 20 and filter coefficients 22. The excitation parameters 20 control the selection of fixed codebook vector and set the gain factor G. The filter coefficients 22 determine the transfer functions of long-term and short-term
30 predictors 16, 18.

In order to explain the present invention, some characteristic features of digital filters will first be discussed with reference to fig. 2.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram of a FIR filter. This type of filter may be used in short-term predictor 20. The filter includes a chain of delay elements D (the figure only shows 3 delay elements, but more elements are of course possible). A set of multipliers M0, M1, M2, M3 tap the input signal $X(N)$ and the delayed signals $X(N-1)$, $X(N-2)$, $X(N-3)$ and multiply these signals by filter coefficients C0, C1, C2, C3, respectively. Finally these multiplied signals are added in adders A1-A3 to form the output signal $Y(N)$ of the filter. The set of signals $X(N)$, $X(N-1)$, $X(N-2)$, $X(N-3)$ form the filter state. From this description it is clear that the filter output signal $Y(N)$ will depend not only on the filter coefficients, but also on the initial filter state. The filter is said to have "memory". This memory is the cause of the abrupt signal changes that occur in the prior art decoders when only the filter coefficients are updated. In the case of a FIR filter the influence an erroneous filter state will depend on the length of the filter. Fewer filter taps will give a shorter memory. On the other hand, in the case of an IIR filter, as is typically used in long-term predictor 18, the memory is infinite.

In the embodiment of fig. 1 decoder 10 has been realized by implementing long-term predictor 18 as a digital filter. Another embodiment is a decoder in which the long-term predictor is implemented as an adaptive codebook instead, as illustrated in fig. 3. An adaptive codebook performs the same function as a long-term predictor, but is not implemented exactly as a digital filter. Instead an adaptive codebook 16 is a long speech sample buffer that is continuously updated by a feedback line 15 as the decoding proceeds. Vectors are selected by pointing to certain parts of this long buffer. In this embodiment the excitation parameters will contain such a pointer on also a gain factor G_A for the selected adaptive codebook vector. Since the adaptive codebook is updated with new samples as decoding proceeds, it is appreciated that the decoded speech samples of a frame will depend on the initial state of the adaptive codebook. Thus, the adaptive codebook has "memory" like a digital filter. In order to cover both embodiments the term "initial decoder state" may therefore be used.

Fig. 4 is a timing diagram illustrating a prior art delayed packet concealment method. A receiver including a decoder receives packets 1-9. Speech parameters P1-P3 and P7-P9 are extracted from the packets that were received in time for decoding, while the delayed packets 4-6 are simply ignored. The extracted parameters P1-P3 are forwarded to the decoder and together with the corresponding initial decoder states S1-S3 will produce the speech signal for frames 1-3. The dashed lines between initial decoder states, for example between initial decoder states S2 and S3, indicate that the later initial decoder state is obtained from the previous initial decoder state if the indicated speech parameters (P2 in this example) are used for decoding. Since packet 4 is delayed, speech parameters for frame 4 are not available. Therefore these speech parameters are predicted from the previous speech parameters P3. One often used prediction method is to simply use the same speech parameters as in the previous frame. The predicted speech parameters for frame 4 are denoted P4P in the figure. Thus, frame 4 will be decoded with correct initial decoder state S4, but with predicted speech parameters P4P. Since packet 5 is also delayed, speech parameters have to be predicted also for frame 5. However, since packet 5 has been ignored the new prediction P5P has to be based on the previous prediction P4P. One often used prediction method is to once again use the speech parameters from the previous frame, but to reduce the energy of the output signal. Furthermore, since frame 4 was decoded with predicted speech parameters P4P, the initial decoder state for frame 5 will not be the correct initial decoder state S5, but erroneous initial decoder state S5E. Since packet 6 is also delayed, the same process (copying speech parameters from previous frame, reducing energy and basing decoding on an erroneous initial decoder state) as in frame 5 is repeated for frame 6. Since packet 7 arrives on time, its speech parameters P7 will be used for decoding frame 7. However, since the previous frames have been decoded with predicted speech parameters, the initial decoder state S7E will be erroneous. This circumstance together with the sudden amplitude increase due to the correctly received speech parameters will produce an abrupt change in the decoded speech signal. After decoding of frame 7 the influence of the "memory" in the decoder is negligible (in some types of decoders; other types may have longer "memory"), and therefore frame 8 will be correctly decoded if packet 8 arrives on time.

Fig. 5 is a timing diagram illustrating another prior art delayed packet concealment method described in [2]. As previously packets 1-3 arrive on time and are decoded normally. The speech parameters for frame 4 are predicted, since packet 4 is delayed. These predicted speech parameters are used to start decoding of frame 4. However, when packet 4 arrives it is not ignored as in fig. 4. Instead speech parameters P4 are extracted and immediately used for decoding. The predicted speech samples that have not yet been outputted are then replaced by speech samples based on correct speech parameters P4 but erroneous initial decoder state S4E. However, this leads to an annoying abrupt output signal change. Assuming that packet 5 is also delayed, speech parameters P5P are predicted from speech parameters P4. These predicted parameters P5P and erroneous initial decoder state S5E are used to decode frame 5. Once packet 5 arrives, the predicted speech samples that have not yet been outputted will be replaced by decoded speech samples based on late arriving speech parameters P5 and an erroneous initial decoder state S5E (the two states denoted S5E need not be the same, the notation just indicates that they are erroneous). This leads to another abrupt signal change. When packet 6 arrives on time and is used to decode frame 6. Thereafter decoding is normal again, since packets 7-9 arrive on time.

Fig. 6 is a timing diagram illustrating the delayed packet concealment method in accordance with the present invention. The first three normal frames are treated in the same way as in fig. 4 and 5. Frame 4 is predicted in a first decoder in the same way as in fig. 4. However, before the frame is decoded the initial decoder state S4 is copied and this copy is saved for future use. As soon as the delayed packet 4 arrives its speech parameters P4 are extracted and used in a second decoder to update the initial decoder state to the correct state S5. The actual speech samples that such a decoding would produce are ignored. The purpose of this second decoding is only to update the initial decoder state. Since packet 5 is also delayed its speech parameters will have to be predicted. However, since the more recent speech parameters P4 are now known, these parameters will be used for the prediction of parameters P5P. Furthermore, two decodings of frame 5 will be performed, namely one decoding based on predicted speech parameters P5P and erroneous initial decoder state S5E, and one decoding based on the same speech parameters and corrected initial decoder

state S5. After decoding the two speech sample frames are combined to form the final output signal.

As shown at the bottom of fig. 6 the two decoded signals are weighted, and thereafter the weighted signals are added. The weighting is performed in such a way that signal 1 from decoder 1 has a high initial weight and a low final weight (solid line), while signal 2 from decoder 2 has a low initial weight and a high final weight (dashed line). The signal may for example be combined in accordance with the formula:

$$y(n) = k(n)y_1(n) + (1 - k(n))y_2(n)$$

where n denotes the sample number in the frame, $y_1(n)$ denotes decoded sample n of signal 1, $y_2(n)$ denotes decoded sample n of signal 2, and $k(n)$ is a weighting function, for example defined as

$$k(n) = 1 - \frac{\log(n)}{\log(N)}$$

where N denotes the frame size. The weighting factor $k(n)$ may of course also be calculated in other ways. The example gives an exponentially decreasing curve as in fig. 6. In this way there is a smooth transition from signal 1 to the more accurate signal 2.

Returning to fig. 6, since packet 5 is delayed the correct initial decoder state S5 is copied and saved for later updating by decoder 2 when packet 5 arrives. Furthermore, since signal 2 is emphasized (due to the weighting) at the end of frame 5, the initial decoder state S6E of decoder 1 used for decoding of frame 6 is taken over from decoder 2 after decoding of frame 5. Since packet 6 is also delayed, speech parameters P6P predicted from packet 5 are used for decoding frame 6 with both the erroneous and corrected initial decoder states S6E and S6, respectively. Thereafter the two output signals are weighted and combined. Since packet 6 is delayed the correct initial decoder state S6 is copied and saved for later updating by decoder 2

when packet 6 arrives. As in the previous frame, initial decoder state S7E of decoder 1 used for decoding of frame 7 is taken over from decoder 2 after decoding of frame 6. Since packet 7 is on time, speech parameters P7 may be used for decoding without a need for prediction. Thereafter the two output signals are weighted and combined.
5 Since packets 8 and 9 are also on time, decoder 2 is not needed anymore, and decoding may proceed as normal in decoder 1. In frame 8 initial decoder state S8 from decoder 2 is used, since this is guaranteed to be correct.

Fig. 7 is another timing diagram illustrating the delayed packet concealment method in accordance with the present invention. This diagram is similar to the diagram in fig. 6,
10 but illustrates another case, namely when packet 4 is delayed by more than one frame. This case differs from the previous case in that conventional concealment methods have to be used in both frame 4 and 5, and in that the initial decoder state is updated twice in frame 5 due to the very late arrival of packet 4. Thereafter the same steps as
15 in fig. 6 are performed.

Fig. 8 is a block diagram of a delayed packet concealment apparatus in accordance with the present invention. Speech parameters are forwarded to two decoders 30 and 32, respectively. The output signals from these decoders are combined in an adder 34
20 to produce the actual speech samples. Between the decoders 30, 32 there is provided an extra memory segment 36 for storing a copy of an initial decoder state that is to be updated.

Fig. 9 is a preferred embodiment of a decoder suitable for implementing the delayed packet concealment apparatus of fig. 8. This embodiment implements the decoder in accordance with the principles described with reference to fig. 1, i.e. with digital filters in both the short-term predictor and the long-term predictor. Since decoder 2 is used only when there are delayed packets, it is actually not necessary to implement two separate decoders, of which only one is used most of the time, in hardware. In a
25 preferred embodiment of the present invention the decoder is therefore based on a micro/signal processor combination 40, which implements both decoder 1 and decoder 2,
30 but at different times. Processor 40 is connected to memory segments containing

the gain G, fixed codebook 12, excitation parameters 20 and filter coefficients 22. A memory segment 42 is provided to store and retrieve predicted filter coefficients. Current decoder filter states for decoder 1 and decoder 2 are stored in memory segment 44 and 46, respectively. Memory segment 36 stores a copy of a correct initial filter state when a packet is delayed. Decoded speech from decoder 1 is stored in a buffer 48 and decoded speech from decoder 2 is stored in a buffer 50. Speech samples from each buffer are weighted by weighting blocks 52 and 54, respectively before they are added in adder 34. Two switches SW1, SW2 controlled by control signals C1, C2 from processor 40 determine which decoder processor 40 currently implements. If the switches are in the position shown in the figure, decoder 1 is implemented, whereas the other position implements decoder 2. A line between memory segments 46 and 44 indicates the transfer of initial filter states from decoder 2 to decoder 1, as indicated at the beginning of frames 5 and 6 in fig. 6. This operation as well as the transfer of filter states from memory segment 44 to memory segment 36 and the transfer of filter states from memory segment 46 to memory segment 36 and back are also controlled by processor 4, but the corresponding control signals have been omitted to avoid cluttering of the figure.

Sometimes packets may arrive in the wrong order. Depending on the type of decoder such cases may require several memory segments 36 for storing initial filter states. The number of memory segments that are required to store initial filter states depends on the memory of the decoder as well as the size of a speech frame. The memory should be able to store the history of the decoder states as well as eventually received parameters during the period in which the parameters can affect the output, which of course is dependent of the encoding method. However, for a speech decoder utilizing forward prediction methods to predict the short-term behavior and a frame size of 20 ms, about 10 memory segments covering 200 ms of speech could be appropriate.

Fig. 10 is a flow chart illustrating the delayed packet concealment method of the present invention. In step S1 it is tested whether the next expected packet is delayed. If not, the next frame is decoded as a normal frame in decoder 1 in step S2, and thereafter the routine returns to step S1. If the packet is delayed, the latest correct filter

state is saved in step S3 for later updating. Since the packet was delayed, decoder 1 performs traditional concealment by predicting the speech parameters and generating a speech frame that covers the delay in steps S4 and S5, respectively. Step S6 tests whether the expected packet is still delayed (as in fig. 7). If this is the case, steps S4-
5 S6 are repeated. If not, the routine proceeds to steps S7 and S8, in which the now arrived packet is used to update the speech parameters and the saved filter state. Step S9 tests whether the next packet is also delayed. If the packet is delayed, a copy of the filter state of decoder 2 is saved in step S10 for future updating. In step S11 speech parameters are predicted from the previous frame and used in steps S12 and S13 for
10 generating output signals from decoders 1 and 2, respectively. In step S14 these output signals are combined (preferably after weighting) into a final speech frame. In step S15 the final filter state of decoder 2 is transferred to decoder 1 (as in frame 5 in fig. 6). Thereafter the routine returns to steps S7 and S8. When a packet finally is on time again, the test in step S9 transfers the routine to steps S16 and S17, in which
15 output signals based on correct speech parameters are generated in decoder 1 and 2, respectively. In step S18 these signals are combined (preferably after weighting). Now everything is back to normal and the routine proceeds to step S1.

The present invention has been described with reference to speech signals and
20 corresponding speech parameters. However, it is appreciated that actually these parameters do not necessarily represent only speech. A more correct term would be audio parameters, since music and background sounds, for example, are represented in the same way. Furthermore, the same principles may also be applied to other packetized signals, such as video signals, which require digital filters for decoding.
25 Thus, a more general term than speech or audio parameters is frame parameters, which is used in the claims. Thus, it is appreciated that concealment method of the present invention is applicable in all environments where predictable real-time data is transferred in packetized mode, and where the packets are delayed in a non-predictable way.

30

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that various modifications and changes may be made to the present invention without departure from the spirit and scope thereof, which is defined by the appended claims.

5

REFERENCES

- 1 K. Cluver, "An ATM Speech Codec with Improved Reconstruction of Lost Cells",
Proceedings Eusipco, 1996.
- 10 2 US patent 5 615 214 (Motorola Inc.)

CLAIMS

1. A delayed packet concealment method in a packet network that uses delayed frame parameters to improve concealment of delayed packets, characterized by performing
5 the following steps when a packet is delayed:

saving a copy of an initial decoder state that existed after decoding the last non-delayed packet;

decoding and concealing packet delay by using predicted frame parameters and said initial decoder state, thereby producing an erroneous initial decoder state;

10 decoding by using updated frame parameters from said delayed packet and said saved initial decoder state, thereby producing a corrected initial decoder state;

decoding by using a set of frame parameters and said erroneous initial decoder state, thereby producing a first output signal and a further erroneous initial decoder state;

15 decoding by using said set of frame parameters and said corrected initial decoder state, thereby producing a second output signal; and

combining said first and second output signals.

2. The method of claim 1, characterized in that said set of frame parameters is
20 obtained from a packet that is not delayed.

3. The method of claim 1, characterized in that said set of frame parameters is predicted from a previous packet when a further packet is delayed.

25 4. The method of claim 3, characterized by:

saving a copy of said corrected initial decoder state;

decoding by using updated frame parameters from said further delayed packet and said saved corrected initial decoder state, thereby producing a further corrected initial decoder state;

30 decoding by using a further set of frame parameters and said further erroneous initial decoder state, thereby producing a third output signal;

decoding by using said further set of frame parameters and said further corrected initial decoder state, thereby producing a fourth output signal; and combining said third and fourth output signals.

5 5. The method of claim 4, characterized in that said further set of frame parameters is obtained from a packet that is not delayed.

6. The method of claim 4, characterized in that said further set of frame parameters is predicted from a previous packet when still another packet is delayed.

10

7. A decoding method in a packet network that uses delayed frame parameters to improve concealment of delayed packets, characterized by including the steps:

 saving a copy of a correct initial decoder state in case of packet delay;

 producing a first decoded output signal by using an erroneous initial decoder state obtained from concealment of at least one delayed packet and a set of frame parameters;

15

 decoding delayed packets using said saved initial decoder state in order to update said saved initial decoder state;

 producing a second decoded output signal based on said updated initial decoder state and said set of frame parameters; and combining said first and second output signals.

20

8. A method of reusing packets that arrive too late at a decoder for normal decoding, characterized by

25

 saving an initial decoder state when a packet is delayed; and

 updating said saved initial decoder state when said delayed packet eventually arrives.

9. The method of claim 8, characterized in that said initial decoder state includes an initial short-term predictor state.

30

10. The method of claim 9, characterized in that said initial decoder state includes an initial long-term predictor state.

5 11. The method of claim 9, characterized in that said initial decoder state includes an initial adaptive codebook state.

12. A delayed packet concealment apparatus in a packet network that uses delayed frame parameters to improve concealment of delayed packets, characterized by:

10 means (36) for saving a copy of an initial decoder state that existed after decoding the last non-delayed packet;

means (30) for decoding and concealing packet delay by using predicted frame parameters and said initial decoder state, thereby producing an erroneous initial decoder state;

15 means (32) for decoding by using updated frame parameters from said delayed packet and said saved initial decoder state, thereby producing a corrected initial decoder state;

means (30) for decoding by using a set of frame parameters and said erroneous initial decoder state, thereby producing a first output signal and a further erroneous initial decoder state;

20 means for (32) decoding by using said set of frame parameters and said corrected initial decoder state, thereby producing a second output signal; and

means (34) for combining said first and second output signals.

25 13. The apparatus of claim 12, characterized means (40) for extracting said set of frame parameters from a packet that is not delayed.

14. The apparatus of claim 12, characterized means (40) for predicting said set of frame parameters from a previous packet when a further packet is delayed.

30 15. The apparatus of claim 13, characterized by:

means (36) for saving a copy of said corrected initial decoder state;

means (32) for decoding by using updated frame parameters from said further delayed packet and said saved corrected initial decoder state, thereby producing a further corrected initial decoder state;

means (30) for decoding by using a further set of frame parameters and said further erroneous initial decoder state, thereby producing a third output signal;

means (32) for decoding by using said further set of frame parameters and said further corrected initial decoder state, thereby producing a fourth output signal; and

means (34) for combining said third and fourth output signals.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, characterized means (40) for extracting said further set of frame parameters from a packet that is not delayed.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, characterized by means (40) for predicting said further set of frame parameters from a previous packet when still another packet is delayed.

18. A decoder in a packet network that uses delayed frame parameters to improve concealment of delayed packets, characterized by:

a memory (36) for saving a copy of a correct initial decoder state in case of packet delay;

a first decoder section (30) for producing a first decoded output signal by using an erroneous initial decoder state obtained from concealment of at least one delayed packet and a set of frame parameters;

a second decoder section (32) used for decoding delayed packets using said saved initial decoder state in order to update said saved initial decoder state, and for producing a second decoded output signal based on said updated initial decoder state and said set of frame parameters; and

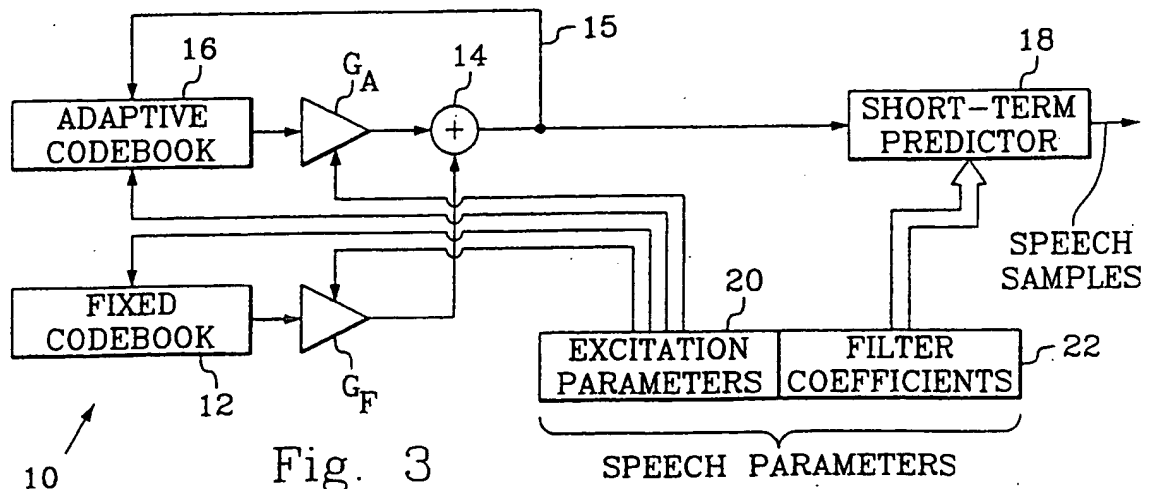
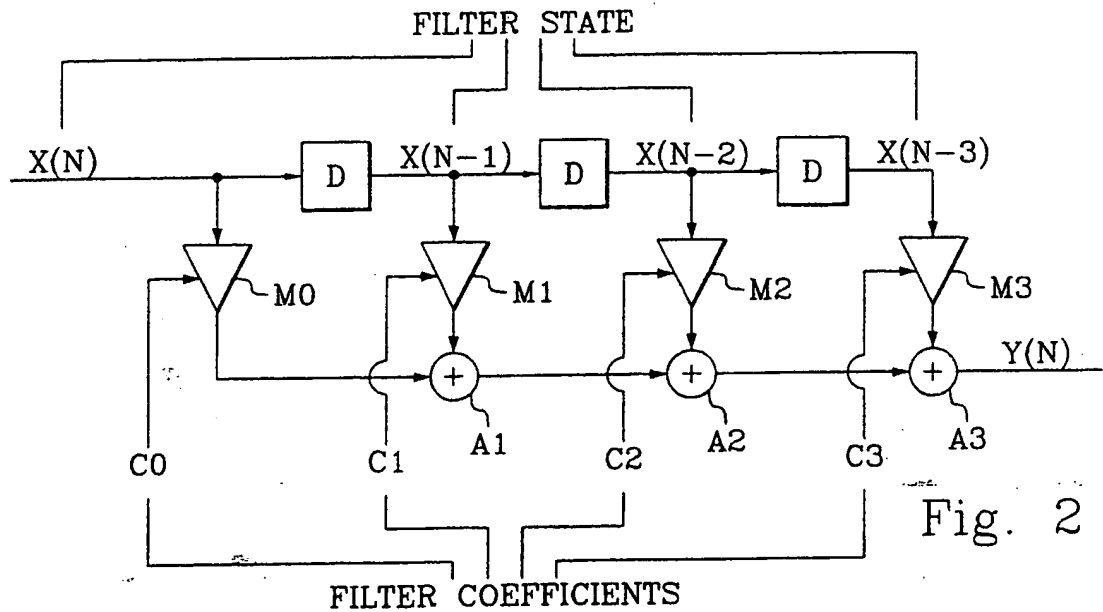
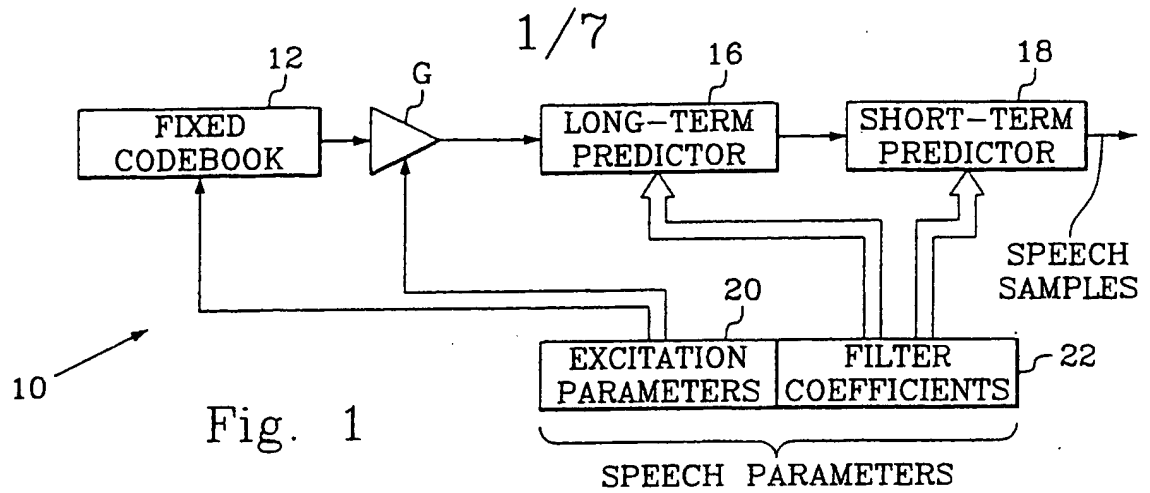
means (34) for combining said first and second output signals.

19. The decoder of claim 18, characterized in that said decoder sections are implemented by using a micro/signal processor combination (40) which implements said first decoder section (30) during first time intervals and said second decoder section (32) during second time intervals.

20. An apparatus for reusing packets that arrive too late at a decoder for normal decoding, characterized by

means (36) for saving an initial decoder state when a packet is delayed; and

5 means (32) for updating said saved initial decoder state when said delayed packet eventually arrives.



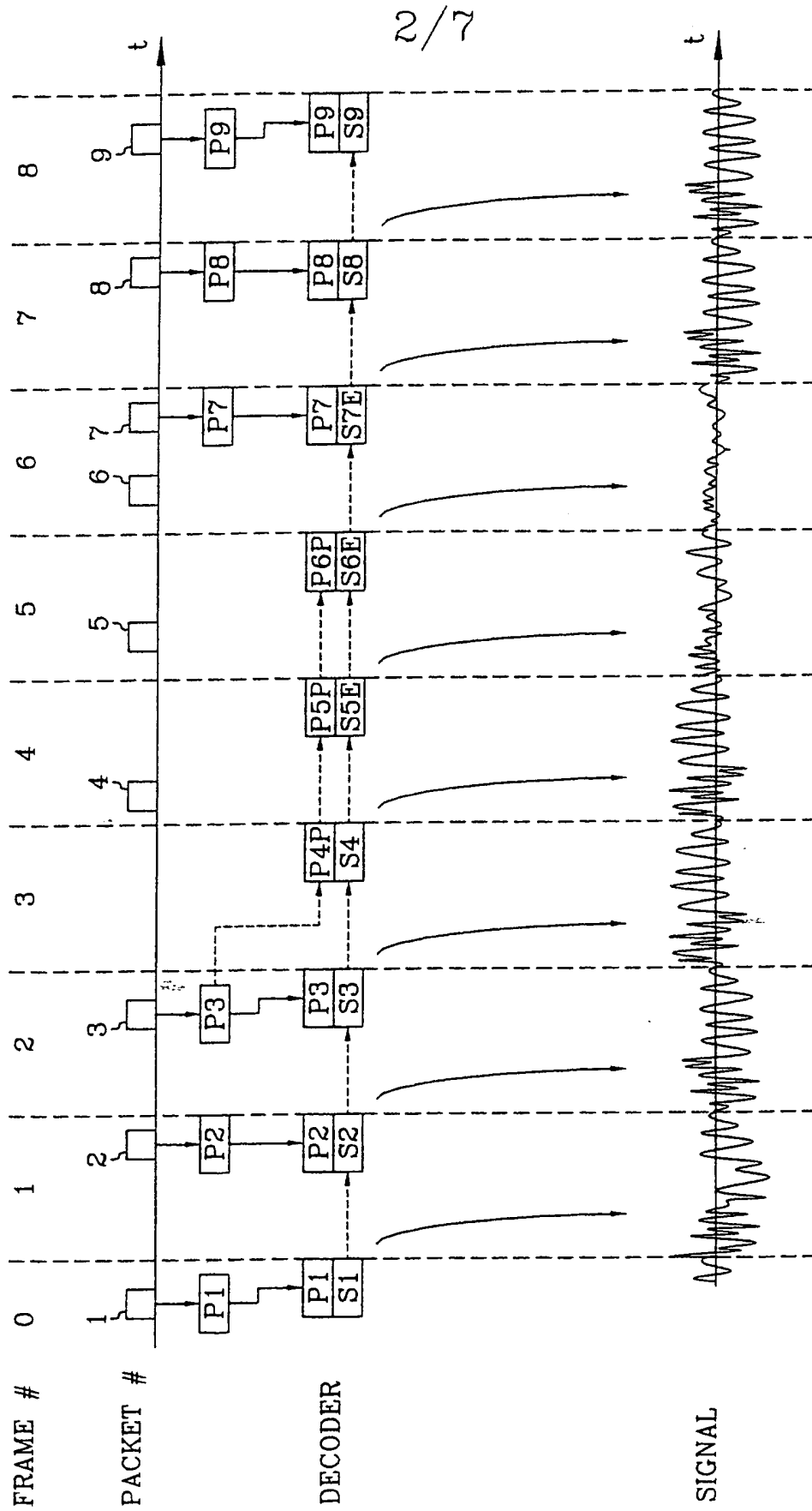


Fig. 4 (PRIOR ART)

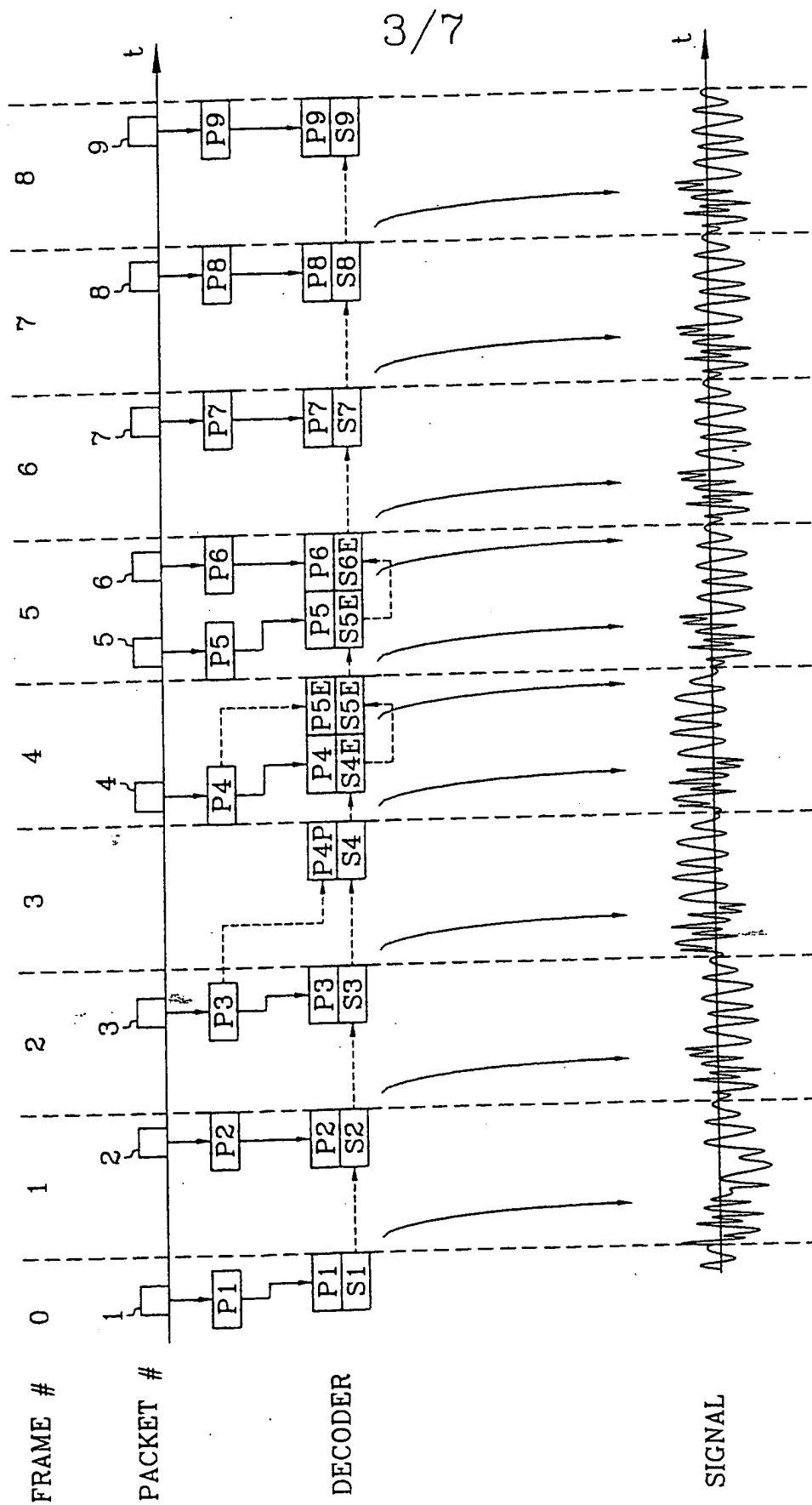


Fig. 5 (PRIOR ART)

4/7

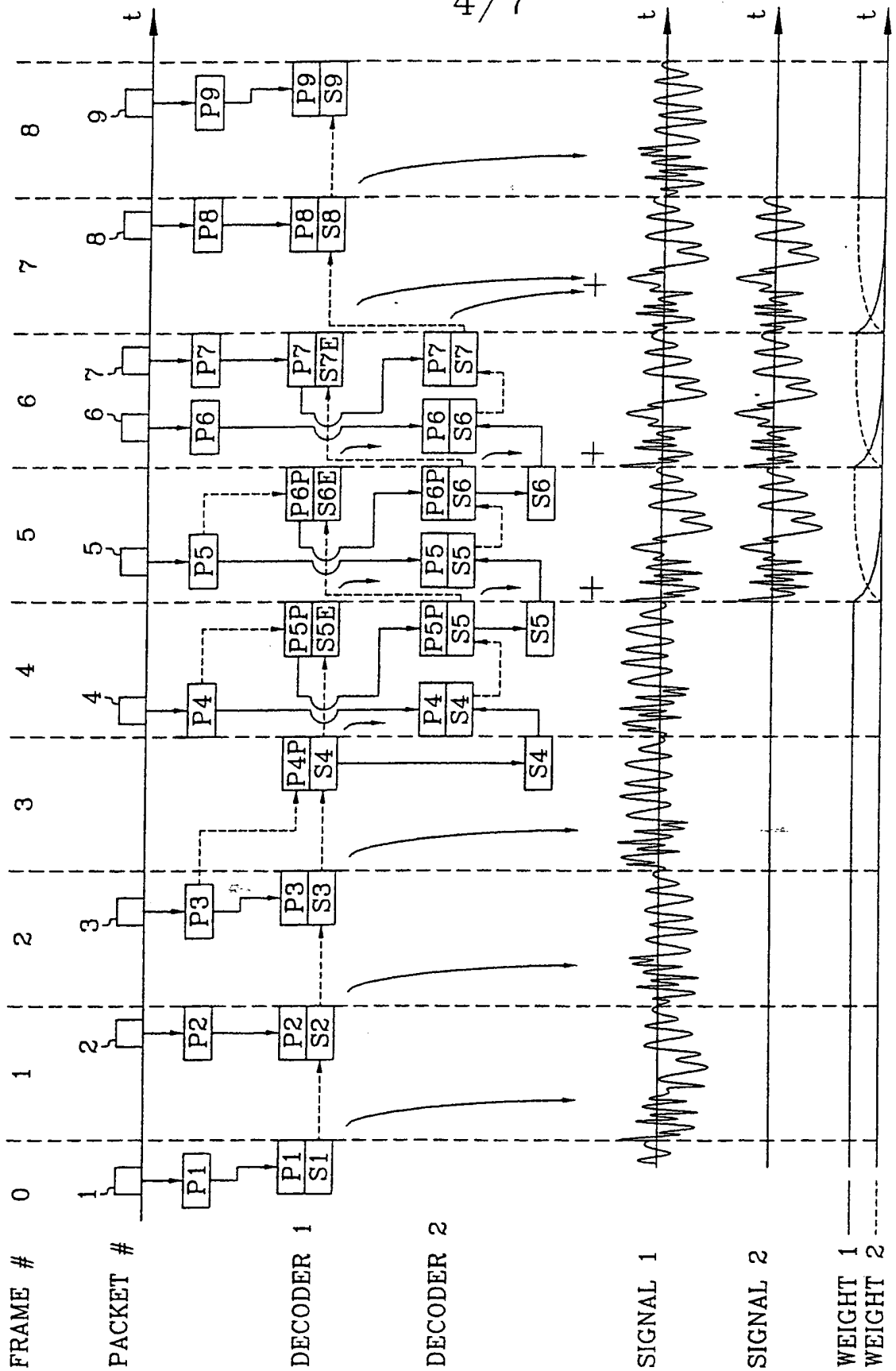


Fig. 6

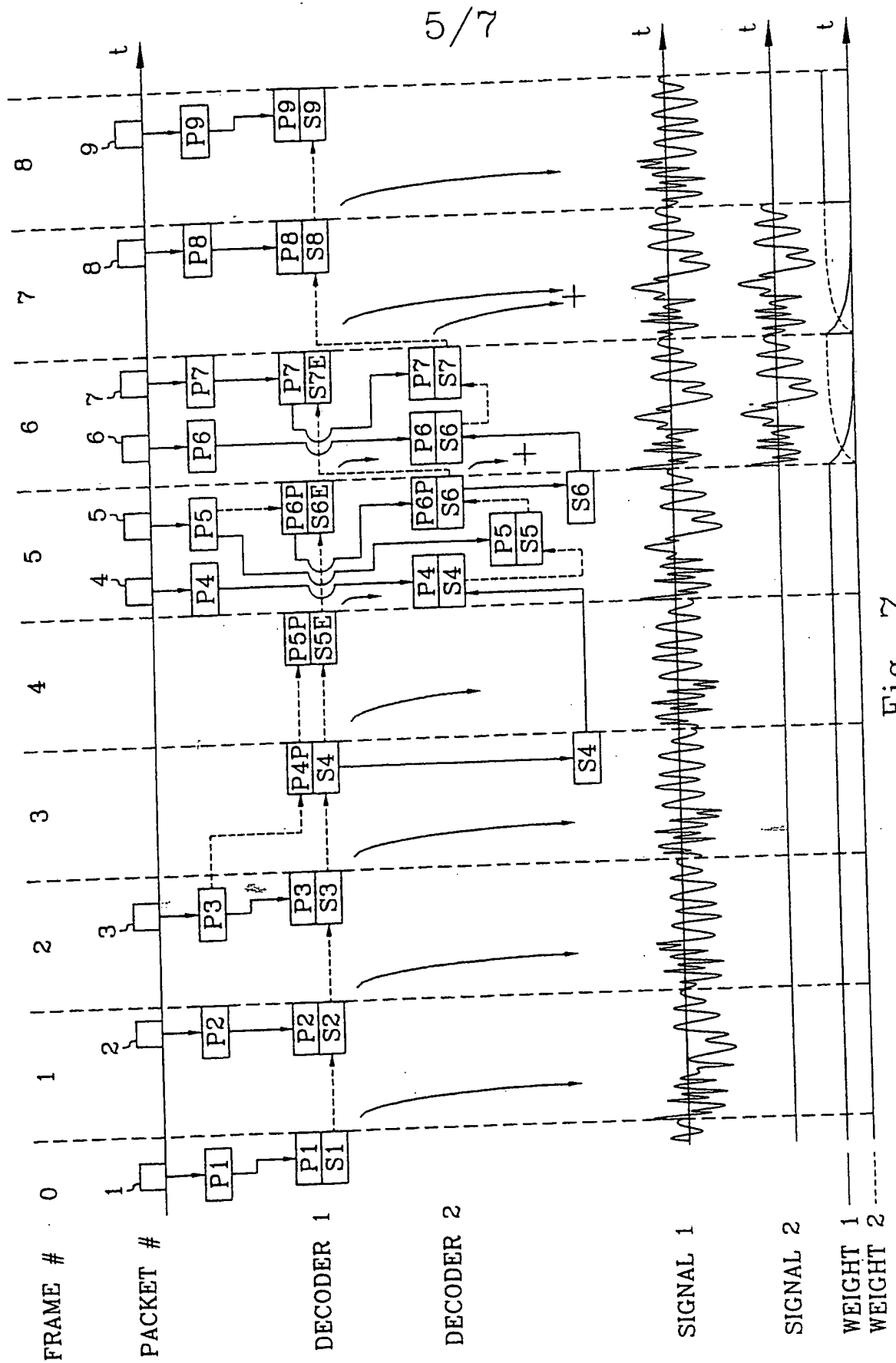


Fig. 7

6/7

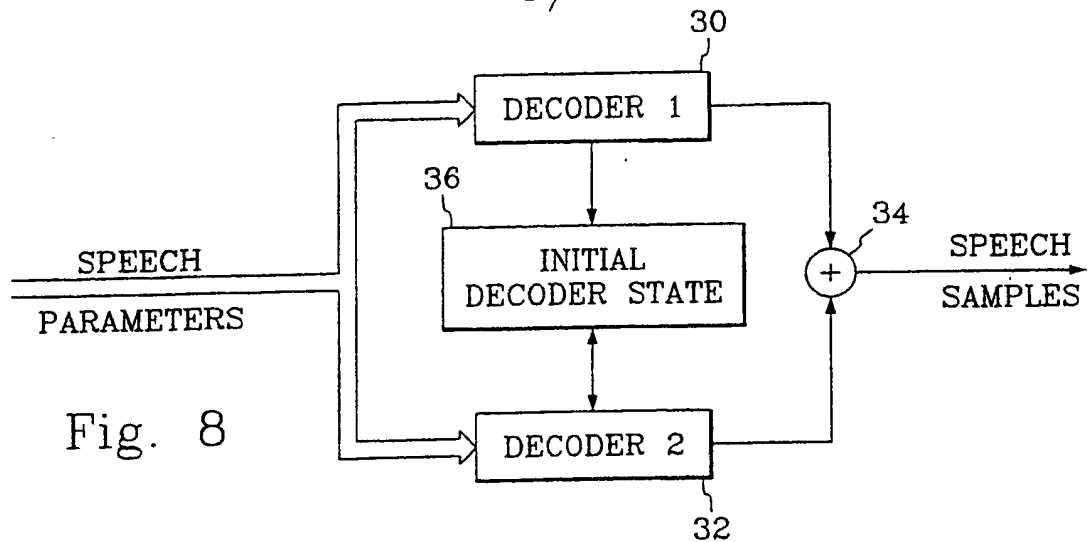


Fig. 8

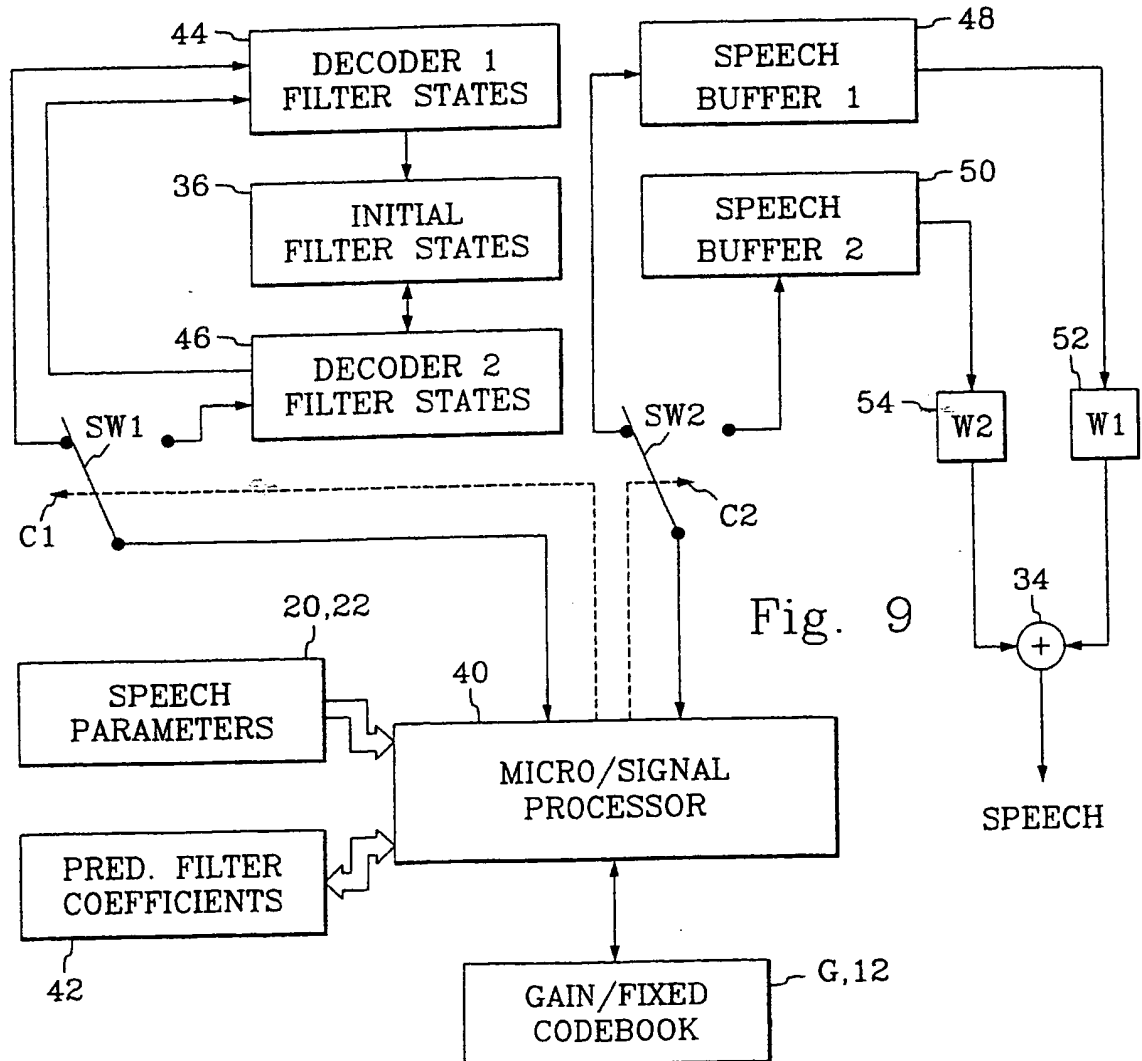
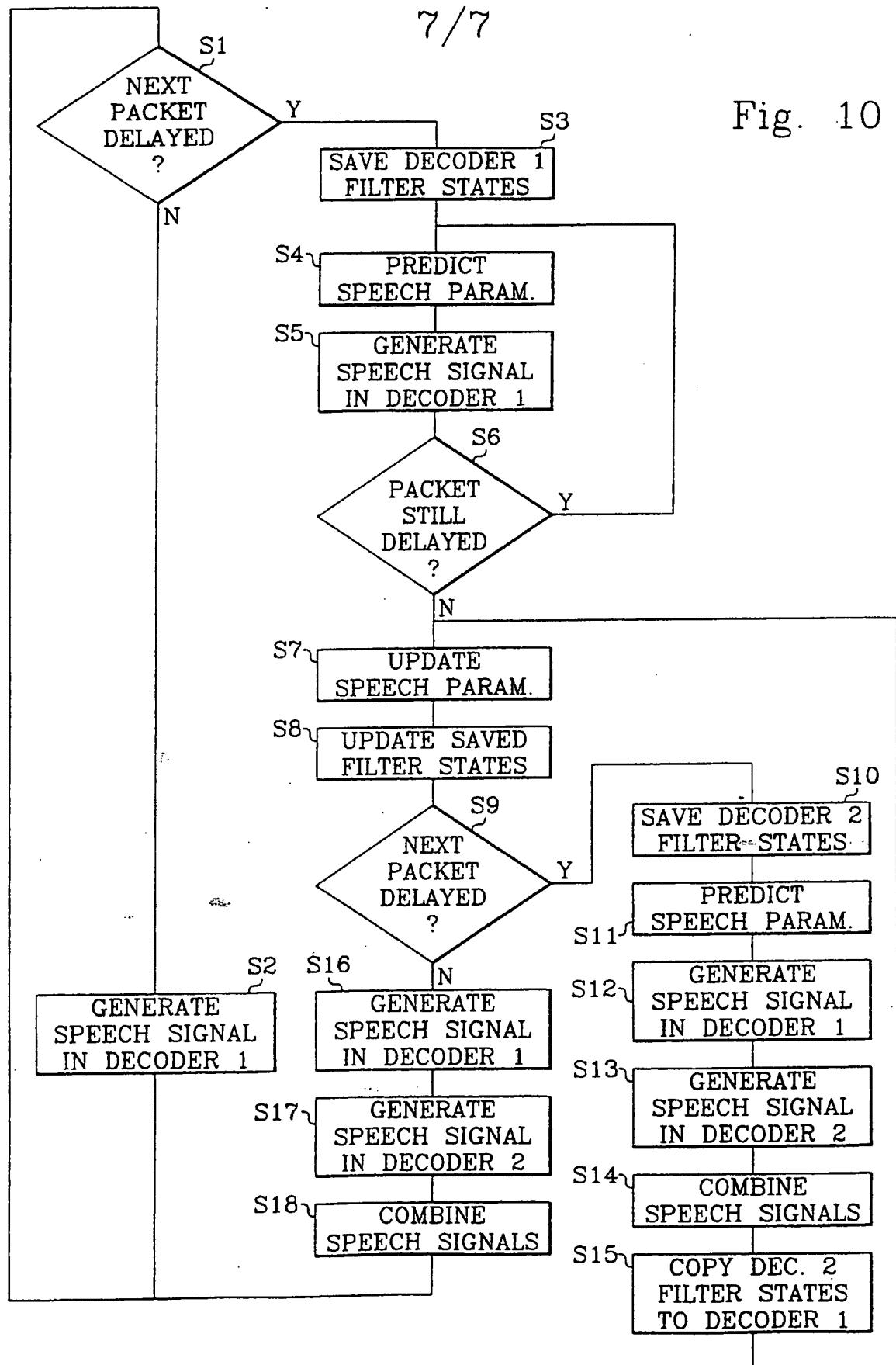


Fig. 9

7/7

Fig. 10



THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 7 : H04L 12/56, 1/22		A3	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/59282
			(43) International Publication Date: 18 November 1999 (18.11.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE99/00689			(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
(22) International Filing Date: 28 April 1999 (28.04.99)			
(30) Priority Data: 9801725-4 14 May 1998 (14.05.98) SE			
(71) Applicant: TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON [SE/SE]; S-126 25 Stockholm (SE).			
(72) Inventors: EKUDDEN, Erik; Fjärilsvägen 23, S-184 38 Åkersberga (SE). SVENSSON, Tomas; S:t Eriksgatan 52, S-112 34 Stockholm (SE). SUNDQVIST, Jim; P.O. Box 920, S-971 28 Luleå (SE).			
(74) Agents: MRAZEK, Werner et al.; Aros Patent AB, P.O. Box 1544, S-751 45 Uppsala (SE).			

Published

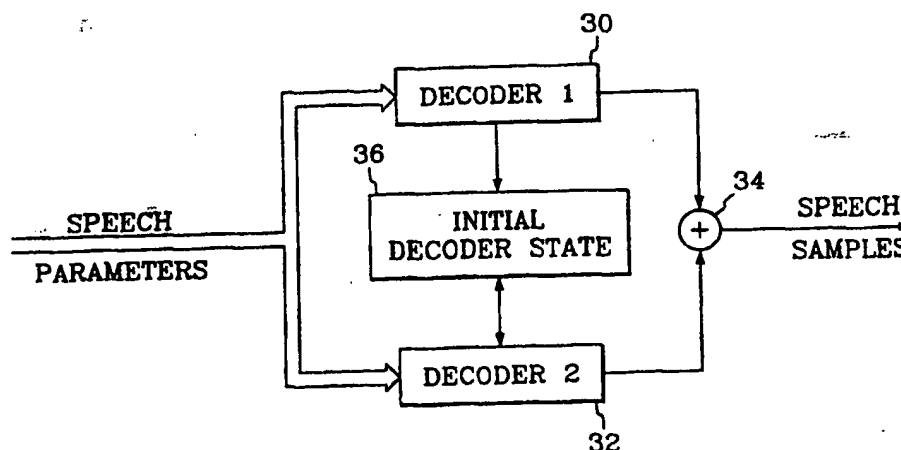
With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

3 February 2000 (03.02.00)

(54) Title: DELAYED PACKET CONCEALMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS



(57) Abstract

A decoder improves delayed packet concealment in a packet network by using two decoder sections. A first decoder section (30) bases its decoding during the concealment phase on erroneous filter states and a set of speech parameters, whereas a second decoder section bases its decoding on saved (36) and updated filter states and the same speech parameters. The outputs of the two decoder sections are thereafter combined (34) to form the final speech signal. This decoding strategy produces a speech signal with smooth transitions from delayed to non-delayed packets and uses information from the most recent packets for speech generation.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece			TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NZ	New Zealand		
CM	Cameroon			PL	Poland		
CN	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/SE 99/00689

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: H04L 12/56, H04L 1/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: H04J, H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	Forth IEEE International Conference on Universal Personal Comm..., Volume, 1995, (New York), Nabuhiko Naka et al, "Improved Error Resilience in Mobile Audio-Visual Communications" page 702 - page 706 --	1-20
A	US 5615214 A (RONALD V. CHANDOS ET AL), 25 March 1997 (25.03.97), cited in the application --	1-20
A	US 5657316 A (TATSURU NAKAGAKI ET AL), 12 August 1997 (12.08.97), abstract -- -----	1-20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "I" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 December 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

14-12-1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

Swedish Patent Office
Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM
Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

Authorized officer

Göran Magnusson/ci
Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

02/11/99

International application No.
PCT/SE 99/00689

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5615214 A	25/03/97	NONE	
US 5657316 A	12/08/97	JP 8204712 A	09/08/96

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 1992)

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☒ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☒ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☐ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.

THIS PAGE BLANK (1)